

Concordia University
Faculty Council of the John Molson School of Business
Minutes of meeting held Wednesday, May 13, 2009
Open Session

Present: S. Sharma, Chair
K. Argheyd (Mana.), A.L. Audy (CASA), B. Barbieri (Mktg.), S. Betton (Fina.), D. Cameron (Mana.), S. Ciotti (CASA), S. Cole (SGS), B. Desai (Comp. Sci.), J-M Edwards (Library), A. Fagnoli (Reg.), T. Field (Mana.), G. Fisher (Econ.), K. Gheyara (Acco.), A. Gold (CASA), S. Goyal (DS&MIS), N. Hdeib (CGSA), A. Hochstein (Assoc. Dean), G. Hughes (Staff), G. Kanaan (Assoc. Dean), L. Katsanis (Mktg.), G. Kersten (DS&MIS), H. Kim (Mktg.) for G. Saad, K. Lamertz (Mana.), M. Lee (CASA), J. Longo (Staff), S. Paek (CASA), P. Pietromonaco (Facil.), I. Rakita (Fina.), K. Reckziegel (CASA), C.A. Ross (Mktg.), R. Saade (DS&MIS), K. Shanmugarajah (CASA), M. Sharma (DS&MIS), L. Switzer (Assoc. Dean) L. Zimmerman (CASA)

Absent with
Regrets: A. Ahmad (Fina.), J. Ahmad (Econ.), S. Al-Safadi (CGSA), C. Cho (Acco.), C. Drainin (Acco.), R. Ferguson (Mana.), J. Freed (Fina.), M. Gagné (Mana.), D. Graham, M. Horst (TESL), F. Nebebe (DS&MIS), D. Peltier-Rivest (Acco.), G. Saad, U. Wassmer (Mana.), J. Woodsworth (President)

Guests: D. Carosielli (Reg.), C. Smith (Reg.)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m.

2. Closed Meeting

3. Open Meeting

4. Approval of Agenda (JMSB-2009-04A)

On a motion duly seconded (M. Sharma, K. Argheyd) the Agenda was approved.

5. Motion for approval of Summer Quorum – one-third of the membership

On a motion duly seconded (M. Sharma, B. Barbieri) Council recommended that the summer quorum for emergency Faculty Council meetings be set at one-third of the membership, sixteen members.

The motion was carried unanimously.

6. Approval of the Minutes (JMSB-2009-03M)

On a motion duly seconded (M. Sharma, B. Barbieri) the Minutes were approved with the correction that the meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m. and not a.m.

7. Chair's Report and Question Period

On behalf of Faculty Council, the Chair extended a vote of thanks to Kamal Argheyd, for his years of service as Chair of the Department of Management.

The Chair announced that Stéphane Brutus will be the Chair of Management as of June 1, 2009. He also welcomed Lea Katsanis for another term as the Chair of Marketing also starting June 1, 2009.

The Chair reminded Council members of the dates and times of convocation and asked everyone to make themselves available to celebrate their students on this important day.

During question period there was a discussion regarding class sizes, the financial contribution of the different departments as well as the status of graduate programs.

Replying to a question about apparent low enrollment for the MBA program and the relation of the M.Sc. to the MBA, A. Hochstein explained that he did not believe that the graduate numbers are lower. There is more interest than ever before in the MBA and the classes are full. The question was directly related to the graduation statistics distributed during closed session. A. Hochstein mentioned that he was surprised that the statistics distributed by the Office of the Registrar were so low and that he would check into this and follow up at the September meeting of Council.

The Chair explained that there is support of the MBA program. There was a surplus in the EMBA and GIIM but there has been low enrolment in the M.Sc. in Management and Marketing. This is presently under review and therefore admissions have been suspended as of Winter 2010 until a restructuring of these two areas of the M.Sc. takes place.

There was a discussion at this point regarding increasing class sizes. It was explained that in some instances it is difficult to teach in larger classes and that the class size and potential for increase lies in the context of the class.

The Chair explained that class sizes were not imposed but it was suggested that we would need to raise the average class size and that some classes were more suitable to an increase. It is to the discretion of the individual departments as to how they feel this could be accomplished in their area.

In response to a query regarding the JMSB strategic plan and how the recommendations of the plan would be accomplished, the Chair explained that a new associate dean position is being created to undertake the assessment of learning and implementation of the strategic plan. It was explained that some initiatives would be starting early in the next academic year but the integral part of this plan includes this leadership position.

8. Business Arising from a Previous Meeting

There was no business arising.

9. Elections

Suresh Goyal from the Department of Decision Sciences and Management Information Systems was elected by acclamation to serve on the Appointment and Review Committee for the CIBC Chair in Entrepreneurship and Family Business.

10. Report: Research and Program Evaluation

- 10.1 Announcement of the 2009 Joe Kelly Graduate Award (JMSB-2009-04A-01)
As the award recipient was announced and approved during the closed session, Council received the document without further discussion.

11. CGSA Report

N. Hdeib updated Council on the list of Executives for the CGSA for 2009-2010:

President: Sherin Al-Safadi
Vice-President, Academic: Nabil Hdeib
Vice-President, Administration and Finance: Annaleigh Greene
Vice-President, Communications: Andrew MacDonald

He also mentioned the following activities taking place this summer:

MBA orientation: May 23. This event is co-sponsored by the departments, MBA Society and CGSA.

Another initiative involves a micro financing project in Uganda. This is a student initiative and the CGSA will be assisting with financing and logistics.

N. Hdeib mentioned the MBA graduate dinner was a huge success. He thanked A. Hochstein and C. Law for their assistance. He mentioned that Lindsay Alcock, the world champion skeleton racer was the guest speaker.

12. Staff Report

There was nothing to report.

13. Report: Masters and Diploma Programs

A. Hochstein thanked the new CGSA Executive for their initiative. He also thanked those involved with the MBA graduation banquet on May 3, 2009 as well as the Dean and President for attending. He explained that there was nothing new to report other than the fact that the interest remains high for the GDBA program.

14. Report: Undergraduate Programs, Academic and Student Affairs

- 14.1 Procedural Guidelines for Advisory Search Committees for Undergraduate Program Directorships (JMSB-2009-04A-02)

G. Kanaan mentioned that these guidelines were created to provide a structure for undergraduate program directorships. The guidelines are similar to those already in place at the graduate level.

On a motion duly seconded (G. Kanaan, K. Argheyd) Council approved the Procedural Guidelines for Advisory Search Committees for Undergraduate Program Directorships (JMSB-2009-04A-02).

The motion was carried.

14. CASA Report

A. Gold mentioned that this would be his last meeting as President of CASA. He thanked Council for the experience of being a member for the last two years. The Chair thanked A. Gold for his service on Council and various other Committees.

16. Reports from School Representatives on University Committees

16.1 University Senate

C. Ross gave a verbal report regarding the last Senate meeting.

There was a major discussion on the process to be followed by the School of Extended Learning when it tries to introduce credit courses. The motion that was presented by the School was finally tabled. It should be up for discussion again at the next meeting of Senate. He explained that any business related courses would have to be accredited due to the fact that the university is accredited by AACSB and not only the business school. C. Ross further explained that the calendar clearly states that SEL credits cannot be used to get into a program.

There was a discussion of the University Strategic Plan at the last meeting of Senate. Many points were raised about the document including the Vision, the relative importance of Montreal location, the absence of explicit reference to faculty quality and so on.

The exercise on the costing of courses will be presented at the next meeting of Senate. He encourages members of Council to attend this meeting for their information.

The Provost's Working Group on Teaching and Learning presented its report to Senate. After much discussion the Provost thanked Senators for their comments.

The Provost reported to Senate that he had reached an agreement in principle with the preferred candidate for the position of Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

16.2 Senate Academic Planning and Priorities

There was nothing to report.

16.3 Senate Academic Programs Committee (JMSB-2009-04A-03)

B. Barbieri explained that feedback was needed from Council in regards to this document. He explained that one of the issues of this report is in terms of deferred exams. The number increased dramatically (70%) over the last six years.

Three proposals are set out in the document to address the problem:

- 1) Require that pre-requisites be passed prior to taking the follow-on course

B. Barbieri mentioned that this proposal does not seem problematic as long as programs do not have a required sequence. There was a brief discussion in regards to how this would affect students who would be graduating. It was suggested that it would be worse for a student to fail a course that to move their graduation date. It was clarified that an average grade of deferral is between a C- and FNS and therefore the students who defer

are most likely those with existing academic difficulties. A. Gold mentioned that the student should be given the choice.

- 2) Deferred courses shall count as part of the load in the term when the deferred exam is to be written

There was a brief discussion on this proposal and it was suggested that someone on a loan may have problems due to the fact that loans normally require maintaining a 4 course load.

- 3) Extension of the Discontinue Deadline to the beginning of the Exam Period for courses with final exams

It was discussed that this proposal suggests a negative perception of quality and lets students back out of performing on a final exam. It was also suggested that this proposal would be detrimental to courses where teamwork is integral to the course. A team member who would discontinue a course at the last minute may have a negative impact on the rest of the team. It was also discussed that students can presently DISC on the 13th week of courses and this should be sufficient. The consensus from Council was that the members were uncomfortable with this last proposal.

There was nothing to report from the following Committees:

- 16.4 University Library Committee
- 16.5 Senate Research Committee
- 16.6 Board of Governors
- 16.7 Arts and Science Faculty Council
- 16.8 Undergraduate Scholarships and Awards Sub-committee
- 16.9 Council of the School of Graduate Studies

17. New Business

- 17.1 Alternatives to Paper Coursepacks (JMSB-2009-04A-04)

The Chair explained that this was for information only as it was determined that presently digital coursepacks would cost three times that of paper coursepacks due to copyright laws. This said,

18. Annual Reports to Council from JMSB Research Chairs – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- 18.1 Steven H. Appelbaum, Senior Concordia Research Chair in Organizational Development (JMSB-2009-04A-05)
- 18.2 Gary Johns, Senior Concordia Research Chair in Management (JMSB-2009-04A-06)
- 18.3 Gregory Kersten, Senior Concordia Research Chair in Decision and Negotiation Systems (JMSB-2009-04A-07)
- 18.4 Michel Magnan, Lawrence Bloomberg Endowed Chair in Accountancy (JMSB-2009-04A-08)
- 18.5 Lorne Switzer, Van Berkom Endowed Chair in Small-Cap Equities (JMSB-2009-04A-09)

All reports (18.1 to 18.5) were received by Council. There were no comments or request for clarification.

19. Other Business

- 19.1 External Representation for 2009-2010 Council of the John Molson School of

Business

Motion for 2009-2010 Council representation

- (a) Other University Service Department – (2008-2009: Facilities Management)
- (b) Two (2) representatives from different departments – (2008-2009: Computer Science and TESL)

After some discussion, it was decided that this item would be deferred to the next meeting of Council in September 2009.

20. Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the JMSB Faculty Council will take place in early Fall 2009. The 2009-2010 schedule of Faculty Council meetings will be sent to members of Council in mid-August.

21. Adjournment

On a motion duly seconded (A. Gold, M. Sharma) the meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.